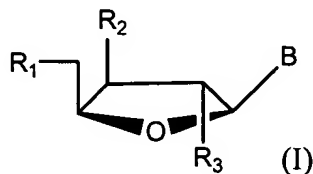


Amendments to the Specification

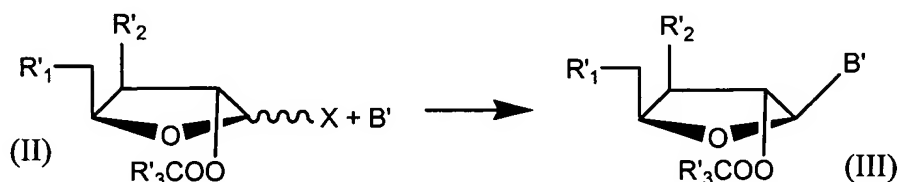
Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 9, with the following amended paragraph:

The subject of the present invention is therefore firstly a method for the preparation of 2'- or 3'-deoxy- and 2',3'-dideoxy- β -L-pentofurano[[c]]nucleoside compounds of formula I:



Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 21 with the following amended paragraph:

1) a compound of formula (II) is condensed with the base B in order to obtain the compound of formula (III)

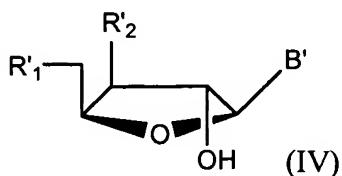


in which in formulae (II) and (III)

- R'₁ and R'₂ have the meanings given for R₁ and R₂ except that when R₁ and R₂ represent OH, the said OH group is protected by a protecting group such as an acyl, benzoyl, benzyl or silyl group,

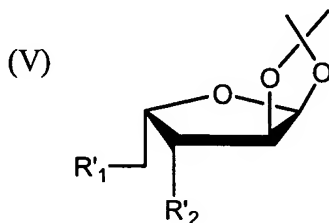
Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 7, with the following amended paragraph:

2) the R'₃ CO group at the 2' position is removed by deacetylation so as to obtain an OH group and a compound of formula



Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 5, with the following amended paragraph:

Thus, the compounds (II) can be prepared in which the compound (II), di-O-acetylated at the 1,2 position, in which X and R'₃COO represent an O-acetyl group, is prepared by acetolysis of the 1,2-isopropylidene-L-xylofuranose compound of formula (V)



Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 17, with the following amended paragraph:

The subject of the present invention is also stereochemically pure stereoisomeric β -L-pentofuranonucleoside compounds corresponding to the following formula

